GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:392
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006
VOTING RIGHTS TO NRIS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has decided to confer the right of franchise to the Non-resident Indians;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether these Non-resident Indians would also be allowed to contest elections; and

(d) If so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 392 by Shri M. Raja Mohan Reddy and Shri Hansraj G. Ahir for reply on 23.08.2006 regarding Voting Rights to NRIs.

(a) to (d) : With a view to enabling citizens of India who are absenting from their place of ordinary residence owing to their employment, education or otherwise outside India to get their names enrolled in the electoral rolls and cast their votes when they are in their constituency at the time of polls, the Government introduced the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006 in Rajya Sabha on 27-02-2006. The said Bill was referred to the Department- Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination and report. The Committee presented its 16th Report on the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006 to Rajya Sabha/laid in Lok Sabha on the 4th August, 2006. The Report is being examined.